



Town of

AMHERST

Massachusetts

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Please Post

TREE MAINTENANCE WORKER

Amherst Public Works is seeking an individual to perform skilled and semi-skilled tasks in the maintenance and removal of trees and in the care and operation of cemeteries. Requires high school graduation and 4 yrs. experience in use of medium and heavy equipment, 2 of which must have been related to tree maint. Skill operating heavy equipment, knowledge of methods, materials and tools used in tree care and maintenance. Requires a valid Massachusetts Commercial Driver's license (CDL), Class B including air brake endorsement, Pesticide and Hydraulic licenses. Starting range is \$1,072.46 - \$1,182.38 biweekly plus benefits. Apply by October 14, 2005 to Human Resources, Town Hall, 4 Boltwood Avenue, Amherst, MA 01002. Application available at www.amherstma.gov Amherst is an EEO/AA employer and encourages women and minorities to apply.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Level: PW 4

Public Works Department, Tree Division

Tree Maintenance Worker

Job Summary

Performs skilled and semi-skilled tasks as a member of a crew assigned to the maintenance and removal of trees. Operates a variety of equipment and vehicles utilized in the performance of duties.

Supervision Received

Works under general supervision of Division Crew Supervisor. Work procedures are standardized and well defined. Exercises independent judgment in helping to determine best method of tree trimming and cutting.

Supervision Exercised

None. The employee is responsible for his/her own work but may occasionally provide assistance to lower level and/or new employees.

Major Duties

1. Performs climbing and topping off of trees using proper methods of trimming and cutting. Performs all duties in conformance with the appropriate safety and security standards.
2. Operates a variety of power equipment. Assists in the general maintenance and repair of vehicles and equipment used by the Division. Operates trucks of various sizes and weights in the loading, hauling and unloading of various equipment, materials, and supplies. Operates motor vehicle equipped with snow plow during snow emergencies.
3. Performs manual excavation of earth and operates backhoe and other equipment in the opening of graves in Town cemeteries. Assists in general maintenance of Town cemeteries.
4. Performs elm tree sampling - cuts down small branches that appear diseased, and writes up description of their condition for evaluation by laboratory technicians. Maintains current skills and knowledge in proper and safe techniques of tree care, trimming and removal.
5. Maintains knowledge of the safe and proper application of pesticides.
6. Performs similar tasks in other divisions of Public Works when directed by the Superintendent.
7. Performs other duties as assigned.

Desired Minimum Qualifications

Graduation from high school or GED equivalent. Four (4) years experience involving the use of medium and heavy equipment, two of which must have been related to tree maintenance.

Considerable knowledge of heavy equipment operating principles; working knowledge of the hazards and safety precautions common to heavy equipment operations; working knowledge of the methods, materials and tools used in tree care and maintenance. Skill in operation of listed tools and equipment. Ability to understand and follow oral or written instructions; Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing; Ability to observe proper safety precautions; Ability to establish effective working relationships with other employees, supervisors and the public; Ability to perform heavy manual tasks under varying weather conditions; Ability to drive and operate a variety of equipment under varying conditions.

Special Requirements

Valid Massachusetts drivers license with Commercial Drivers License (CDL) endorsement, or ability to obtain one. Pesticide License, Hydraulic License for Front End Loader and Backhoe.

Tools and Equipment Used

Motorized vehicles and equipment, including backhoe, dump truck, pickup truck, platform bucket truck; chain saw, edgers, weed trimmers, tamper, saws, pumps, generators, common hand and power tools, shovels, wrenches, detection devices, mobile radio, phone.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee frequently is required to stand and talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to walk; sit; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; or smell.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 10 pounds and occasionally lift and/or move up to 100 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

Work Environment

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee regularly works in outside weather conditions. The employee frequently works near moving mechanical parts and is frequently exposed to wet and/or humid conditions and vibration. The employee occasionally works in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to fumes or airborne particles, chemicals, and risk of electrical shock.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate to loud.

Selection Guidelines

Formal application, rating of education and experience; oral interview and reference check; job related tests may be required.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.